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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

September Livestock Slaughter
Average Prices Received by Farmers

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during September totaled 500,000 pounds, down 17 percent from August and 17 percent below the previous year.

There were 600 head of **cattle** slaughtered during September, unchanged from August but down 300 head from the previous year. Average live weight was 822 pounds, down 24 pounds from the previous month but 33 pounds above September 2006. Total live weight, at 475,000 pounds, was 8 percent below the previous month and 33 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during September totaled 300 head, up 100 head from August but unchanged from the previous year. Live weight averaged 514 pounds, up 19 pounds from August and 29 pounds above September 2006. Total live weight, at 141,000 pounds, was up 25 percent from August and 1 percent above the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during September totaled 1,000 head, down 100 head from the previous month and 200 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 194 pounds, down 12 pounds from August and 6 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 197,000 pounds, down 12 percent from August and 20 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during September was 300 head, down 100 head from August but up 200 head from the previous year. Live weight averaged 81 pounds, up 7 pounds from last month and the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.86 billion pounds in September, down 2 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in September 2006.

September 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. September 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.09 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.4 million pounds, 22 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,000 head, down 3 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was down 68 pounds from last year, at 283 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.75 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.77 million head, down 1 percent from September 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from September 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 210,600 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, the same as the previous year.

January to September 2007 commercial red meat production was 35.7 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year; veal was down 2 percent; pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	Aug.	September		Jan. – Sept.		September		January – September	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
----- Number, thousand head -----									
Cattle	0.6	0.9	0.6	7.3	5.9	2,766.6	2,665.0	25,385.2	25,682.5
Calves	0.2	0.3	0.3	2.4	2.3	57.6	56.0	512.7	573.1
Hogs	1.1	1.2	1.0	12.8	11.9	8,832.7	8,774.4	76,856.9	78,775.5
Sheep & Lambs	0.4	0.1	0.3	1.1	2.4	219.1	210.6	2,010.1	1,978.0
----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----									
Cattle	514	704	475	6,013	4,942	3,542,417	3,426,441	32,089,208	32,349,710
Calves	113	140	141	1,216	1,181	20,075	15,728	178,117	176,719
Hogs	224	245	197	2,579	2,402	2,348,584	2,334,741	20,608,818	21,073,784
Sheep & Lambs	27	9	28	114	219	28,320	27,045	275,413	269,267
----- Average live weight, pounds -----									
Cattle	846	789	822	824	838	1,285	1,290	1,268	1,264
Calves	495	485	514	507	513	351	283	350	311
Hogs	206	200	194	201	202	266	266	268	268
Sheep & Lambs	74	74	81	104	91	129	129	137	136
----- Million pounds -----									
Red Meat	0.6	0.6	0.5	6.3	5.6	3,949.9	3,864.1	35,313.4	35,704.1

Prices Received Index Up

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 142 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point from September. The Crop Index was up 7 points, but the Livestock Index decreased 7 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, wheat, soybeans and tomatoes and lower prices were received for broilers, hogs, cattle and eggs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton and grain sorghum offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, grapes and broilers.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 27 points from October 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 145, increased 1 point from last month and 29 points from October 2006.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The October Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates was 159 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from September but 11 points above October 2006. Higher prices in October for diesel fuel, LP gas, feed supplements and complete feeds offset lower prices for nitrogen fertilizers, feeder cattle, feeder pigs and herbicides.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	October 2006	September 2007	October 2007 ¹	October 2006	September 2007	October 2007 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	5.87	8.12	8.46	5.52	8.18	8.58
Rice, per cwt	10.10	10.10	10.90	9.65	10.30	10.70
Upland Cotton, per pound	.475	2/	.521 ³	.459	.520	.532 ³
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	109.00	132.00	133.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	61.80	65.70	62.10	88.20	92.90	90.80
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	95.60	99.50	93.00	93.70	98.10	96.70
Cows, per cwt ⁵	41.90	45.90	44.00	46.00	49.10	46.80
Calves, per cwt	115.00	114.00	106.00	128.00	127.00	125.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.400	.480	.430
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.541	1.070	.936
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.60	21.70	21.20

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = Not Available.

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